

SAFE KIDS



Following are a number of things you can talk to your kids about to help prevent them from being involved in a violent situation:

- Don't go out alone.
- Always let your parents know where you will be, who you'll be with and when you'll return.
- Never go with someone you don't know and trust.
- Don't hang out with kids who think violence is cool or are bullies or use name calling.
- Stay away from places where trouble occurs.
- Never carry a weapon.
- Don't get into physical altercations. Walk away and cool off!
- Learn how to resolve conflict through words.
- Talk about what you watch on television and separate fact from fiction.

RESOURCES

One goal of the Corvallis Police Department is to have ***No Firearm Related Tragedies!***

If you need a trigger locking device, come to the Corvallis Police Department, located at 180 NW 5th Street. We will give you one **for FREE!**

Additional information is available at the following web sites:

National SAFEKIDS Campaign
www.safekids.org

Common Sense - about kids and guns
www.kidsandguns.org

Learning Network
www.familyeducation.com

National Crime Prevention Council
www.ncpc.org

Corvallis Police Department
180 NW 5th Street
Corvallis, OR 97330
(541) 766-6924

Crime Prevention/Brochures/Rev.05/02

Kids, Guns & Violence



Steps to maintaining a safe and happy home.

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Before we can address the issues and solutions associated with guns, violence and kids, we must first confront the following facts :

- Every day 75 American children are shot.
- In the US, 15 kids die each day from a gun shot wound.
- Every 6 hours a child between the ages of 10 and 19 commits suicide with a handgun.
- 88% of children who are injured or killed in accidental shootings are shot in their own homes or the home of a relative or friend.
- Two-thirds of parents who own a gun think they have "hidden" the firearm. One study found that 75-80% of first and second graders knew the location of that "hidden" firearm.
- In America, more teenage boys die from gunshot wounds than car accidents.
- A child as young as 3 is strong enough to pull the trigger of a handgun.



GUN SAFETY

1. BE RESPONSIBLE!
2. The ideal suggestion would be to remove firearms from a house where children are present.
3. If you chose to keep firearms in your home, please store them according to the following suggestions:
 - ▶ Always keep firearms locked in a secure place that is **NOT** accessible to children.
 - ▶ Use safety devices such as trigger locks, locking gun cases and gun safes.
 - ▶ Store firearms unloaded.
 - ▶ Keep ammunition locked and stored separately from firearms.
 - ▶ NEVER leave a firearm out in the open and unattended.
4. Teach children - from preschoolers to teenagers - that guns injure and kill!
5. Teach children that if they find a gun they should: 1) STOP; 2) Don't touch; 3) Leave the area, 4) Tell a trusted adult!

VIOLENCE

Children receive the message from peers, media and even family & friends that violence is OK. It's important to begin talking with your children at an early age about what is appropriate behavior and what is not.

- ⚙ Be very clear with the other people in your child's life about the values and views on violence that you want to instill in your family.
- ⚙ Don't wait for the topic to come up. Initiate conversation about family values before a situation arises.
- ⚙ Make the conversation an ongoing one, instead of a short lecture.
- ⚙ When a situation in the community or at school occurs, talk about what happened, and the choices which were made, or might have been available.
- ⚙ Explain the difference between feeling angry or frustrated and acting out on those feelings.
- ⚙ SET A GOOD EXAMPLE.

